

MEDICAL MARIJUANA/CANNABIS TASK FORCE

**MEETING SUMMARY FOR
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2003 @ 12 NOON**

**EXECUTIVE COMPLEX - 5TH FLOOR
1010 SECOND AVENUE**

For Information contact Ed Plank (236-6433).

Attendees:

The following Task Force members were in attendance: Chair: Jerry Meier, St. Clair Adams, Michael Bartelmo, Larry Chaidez, and Conley Major.

Staff present were Staajabu Heshimu and Lt. Cesar Solis.

The Chair noted that a quorum was present but, because there were so many Task Force members and staff absent, he wanted to move quickly through the agenda, beginning with a brief Chair's Report.

Chair's Report: Fund Raising Update, Ordinance Update, RFP Review

The Chair announced that the program has a donor with a \$10,000 challenge pledge; the donor does not want to be the sole sponsor of the verification card program. Jerry said the goal is to match this pledge with another \$10,000 by the September meeting to fund the card program at \$20,000. He announced that both the City Ordinance and Request for Proposals are close to completion, and he is feeling positive about some forward movement in September.

Sub-committee Reports

St. Clair announced that the Law Enforcement sub-committee is scheduled to meet with representatives of SDPD on the card program on August 21 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Public Comment

A guest said he is new to San Diego from the Bay Area; he is a card holding caregiver of the San Francisco program and also part of a nonprofit organization that has dispensaries. He showed that program's identification card to interested Task Force members and pledged to do whatever he could to help get San Diego's card program up.

It was suggested that interested Task Force members should visit CANormal.org on the web to review the District 9 Court ruling requiring counties to establish medical cannabis guidelines.

Lt. Solis was asked if SDPD would prefer medical marijuana dispensaries to having many growers in the city. Lt. Solis responded that SDPD has a brand new Chief and he did not yet know the Chief's views on medical marijuana programs. A guest noted that San Jose (where Chief Lansdowne is from) has four dispensaries.

Charley announced that he is the father of a baby girl born on August 11 and that he is still waiting for the release of the new RFP.

Richard Dittbenner distributed a handout of his remarks which encouraged the Task Force to implore the City Council to declare San Diego's support for Proposition 215 in spite of the federal government's position and to move quickly to get the card program in place.